



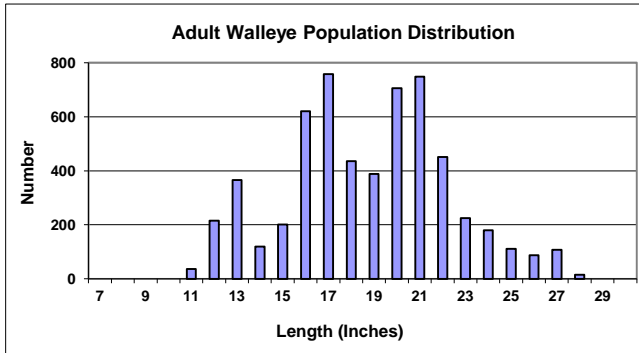
**WISCONSIN DNR
FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET**

LAKE: METONGA

COUNTY: FOREST

YEAR: 2016

The Department of Natural Resources surveyed Lake Metonga, Forest County, from April 19th through April 26th, in order to assess the status of the walleye population. Lake Metonga is a drainage lake with predominantly sand and rock substrates with some muck. It has a surface area of 2,157 acres, 7.9 miles of shoreline, and a maximum depth of 79 feet. Lake Metonga's walleye population is sustained through natural reproduction, although stocking efforts have occurred in recent years.



* Note: Adult walleye are defined as all sexable walleye (regardless of length) and those of unknown sex ≥ 15 inches in length.

Walleye



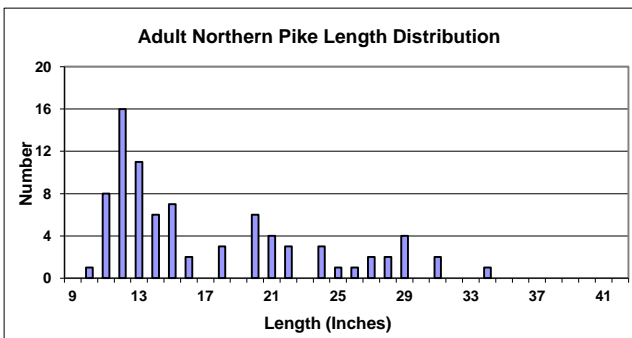
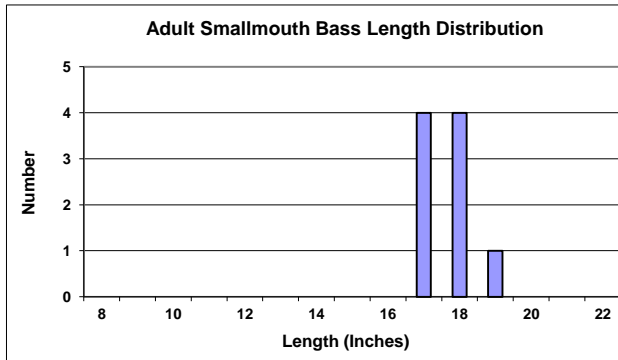
During seven days of fyke netting, 1,959 adult walleye were captured and marked with a fin clip. Two crews then sampled with an electrofishing boat and captured 418 adult walleye. During electrofishing 37% (155 of 418) of captured walleye bore the fin clip given during fyke netting. The largest walleye we captured was a 28.7-inch female.

Based on those results, Lake Metonga was estimated to contain 5,770 adult walleye (2.9/acre). An estimated 87% of adult walleye were 15 inches long or larger.

Smallmouth Bass



Smallmouth Bass were not a primary target during our survey of Lake Metonga. Sampling occurred prior to peak smallmouth spawning. As a result, just nine smallmouth bass eight inches or larger were captured. All smallmouth captured were 14 inches long or larger, with the largest measuring 19.3 inches. No largemouth bass were sampled during our surveys.



Northern Pike



83 adult northern pike were captured during our surveys on Lake Metonga. Of those pike captured, 86% (71 of 83) were less than 26 inches long. The largest northern pike captured was a 34.6-inch female.

* Note: Adult northern pike are defined as all sexable northern pike and those of unknown sex ≥ 12 inches in length.

Other Species

In addition to the game fish mentioned above, five species of fish were captured during fyke netting and electrofishing sampling of Lake Metonga. White sucker, black bullhead, yellow perch, and rock bass were common in our fyke net catches, while pumpkinseeds were captured in lower numbers.

A creel survey will be conducted on Metonga Lake throughout the 2015-16 fishing season. Creel clerk Shannon Morrell will count and interview anglers and examine their catch. The information gathered will be used to estimate fishing effort in addition to angler catch and harvest.

Table 1. General Fishing Regulations for Lake Metonga, Forest County, 2016

FISH SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH
Walleye	May 7 - March 5	3	15" min. length, 20-24" no harvest slot, 1 fish over 24" allowed
Largemouth Bass	May 7 - March 5	5 in total with SMB	14 inches
Smallmouth Bass	May 7 - June 17 (C&R) June 18 - March 5 (Harvest)	5 in total with LMB; harvest season only	14 inches
Northern Pike	May 7 - March 5	5	None

A brief summary of selected fishing regulations for Lake Metonga is included above (Table 1). While the regulatory information provided was current at the time the surveys were conducted, it is not comprehensive and should not be used as a substitute for the current fishing regulation pamphlet. You may obtain a copy of current fishing regulations when you purchase your fishing license, or download a copy from our web site at:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/regulations/>

This report is interim only; Watch for finalized summaries at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/north/trtysprngsrvys.html>. Creel survey results should be available by June 2017 at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/north/trtyclsrsvys.html>. For questions, contact:

Lawrence Eslinger, Treaty Fisheries Biologist
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
8770 Highway J
Woodruff, WI 54568
(715) 356-5211 Ext. 209
Email: lawrence.eslinger@wisconsin.gov

For answers to questions about fisheries management activities and plans for Lake Metonga, Forest County, contact:

Greg Matzke, Fisheries Biologist
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
5631 Forestry Drive
Florence, WI 54121
(715) 528-4400 Ext. 122
Email: gregory.matzke@wisconsin.gov